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Agency News

TDCJ mourns loss of Officer Mari Johnson

During the early morning hours of Saturday, July 16, Correctional Officer Mari Johnson of the Robertson Unit was found unresponsive in a storage area near the unit kitchen. Despite attempts at lifesaving first aid, the 55-year-old officer was pronounced dead after being transported to the Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.



Correctional Officer Mari Johnson in 2009.

Officer Johnson began employment with the agency in August 2009.

“Officer Johnson was a dedicated public servant who chose to dedicate her life to protecting the public, and ultimately she gave her life in the name of public safety,” said TDCJ Executive Director Bryan Collier. “She

was a hero who died in the line of duty, and all Texans owe her a debt of gratitude for her sacrifice. My deepest sympathies go out to her family, friends and co-workers. Please know that you are in our hearts and prayers.”

Funeral services were held for Officer Johnson on Friday, July 22, at First Baptist

Church in Mansfield. Nearly 800 mourners were in attendance, including fellow TDCJ officers, law enforcement officers and agency employees. Executive Director Brad Livingston, Bryan Collier (then deputy executive director), Correctional Institutions Division Director Lorie Davis and TBCJ Chairman Dale Wainwright were among many agency officials who attended the service.

Officer Johnson’s alleged assailant has been transferred from the Robertson to another TDCJ maximum-security unit. Investigators with TDCJ’s Office of the Inspector General continue to gather evidence and are working closely with the Special Prosecution Unit on the criminal investigation. ●



Honor Guard members line the hallway as friends and family are seated for Officer Johnson’s funeral service.



Correctional and law enforcement officers from across the state gathered to mourn the loss of Correctional Officer Mari Johnson.